(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended drastic changes in the archaic Court Fee Act and Indian Stamp Act to check the loss of Government's revenue by using alternative modes of payments like demand draft, pay order, banker's cheque, postal order, challan for court fee and stamp duty etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has accepted these recommendations of the Law Commission to save Government's huge cost of printing judicial and non-judicial stamps and commission of stamp vendors etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appointment of Judges in Supreme Court

1911. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that names of some High Court Judges have been cleared by the Supreme Court collegium early in September, 2009 for appointment as a Supreme Court Judge;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received complaints from eminent jurists and Lawyers' Association in Chennai levelling serious charges of corruption and disproportionate assets against a particular Chief Justice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Chief Justice of India had recommended names of five Chief Justices of the High Courts for appointment as Judges of the Supreme Court.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A view on the allegations made against one of the Chief Justices is to be taken by the Chief Justice of India as per the existing procedure.

Vacant posts of Judges

1912. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the delay in filling up the vacancies of Judges in subordinate judiciary, High Courts and Supreme Court is the main reason for the accumulation of pending cases in the various court, in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the vacant posts of Judges in subordinate courts, High Courts and Supreme Court, at present; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill up these vacancies within a time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) It is a fact that delay in filling up the vacancies of Judges is one of the main reasons for accumulation of pending cases in courts.